

P 050928Z OCT 09
FM AMEMBASSY LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5721
NVC PORTSMOUTH 0040

UNCLAS LUANDA 000617

DEPT FOR CA/FPP
DEPT ALSO PASS TO KCC
POSTS FOR FRAUD PREVENTION MANAGERS
CAIRO PASS TO RCO ROWAN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: CVIS CPAS CMGT ASEC KFRD AO
SUBJECT: FRAUD SUMMARY - LUANDA (March 2009 - August 2009)

REF: STATE 00074840

¶1. Per reftel, post submits the following bi-annual fraud report covering the March 2009 - August 2009 period:

a. COUNTRY CONDITIONS: Angola's decades long civil war ended in 2002, and fighting has ended in all areas of the country. This includes Cabinda, where the Government signed a peace agreement in August of 2006 with the Front for the Liberation of Cabinda (FLEC). Angolan legislative elections, the first elections in sixteen years, were held on September 5, 2008. Angola is currently experiencing an oil boom and its economy is growing rapidly. However, in terms of socio-economic indicators, Angola consistently ranks near the bottom. The end of the war has meant a reduction in the number of people seeking visas to escape war conditions and military service; however, 214(b) considerations remain. It is not uncommon for bribes to be paid to obtain services, documents or goods. There are large numbers of undocumented workers from neighboring countries, particularly Democratic Republic of the Congo, in Angola.

b. NIV FRAUD: Overall fraud among NIV applicants appears to be low, although there have been some incidences of fraud.

In June 2009, an applicant was refused under 212(A)(6)(C)(I) due to misrepresentation. The applicant clearly misrepresented his identity. On a previous application from May 2004, the applicant used one name and date of birth and on an application from March 2009 the applicant used a different name and date of birth. The applicant also did not disclose other important factors, such as having previously obtained visa and visited the United States. This information was not readily available to the Consular officer due to the misrepresentation. It was also later discovered that the subject had been found by the Department of Homeland Security to have overstayed on a previous visit by more than 365 days, constituting an ineligibility. The subject, after the interview, in later correspondence, confirmed the misrepresentation.

c. IV FRAUD: In August 2007, U.S. Embassy Luanda began processing immigrant visas, which were previously done in Harare. No IV fraud was detected this period.

d. DV FRAUD: In August 2007, U.S. Embassy Luanda began processing diversity visas. During the current fiscal year post encountered fraudulent documents related to only one DV case. A DV applicant submitted fraudulent high school certificates. Prior to interviewing subject, the documents were confirmed to be fraudulent by the Ministry of Education. However, in the interview, the subject admitted to having only completed education through the seventh grade.

Thirty percent of our DV cases are from third country nationals. Post relies on other posts to verify the veracity of the documents presented by the applicants. So far we have no encountered false documents from those nationals.

e. ACS AND U.S. PASSPORT FRAUD: Post is investigating a case of possible identity fraud. In March 2009, an outstanding warrant in the name of an American citizen appeared on an FBI wanted list for the commission of a felony. In December 2007 an imposter may have applied for a US passport in the name of this American citizen. The

case has been referred to CA/PPT/L for passport revocation consideration and to the FBI for an advisory opinion. Post is awaiting a response.

f. ADOPTION FRAUD: Post did not process any adoption cases during this period.

g. USE OF DNA TESTING: Post has not worked on any cases involving DNA requirements during this reporting period.

h. ASYLUM AND OTHER DHS BENEFIT FRAUD: In its processing of Visas 92/93 cases, post has in the past encountered fraudulent documents including marriage and birth certificates. However, no fraud was detected in any Visas 92/93 cases processed during the March 2009 - August 2009 period. About half of post's Visas 92 cases come from the Democratic Republic of Congo and other third countries. With those cases, post contacts the Consular Section in the third country to verify the authenticity of documents presented by Visas 92/93 applicants.

i. ALIEN SMUGGLING, TRAFFICKING, ORGANIZED CRIME, TERROIST TRAVEL: Nothing to report at this time.

j. DS CRIMINAL FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS: See ACS and US Passport Fraud.

k. HOST COUNTRY PASSPORT, IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND CIVIL REGISTRY: Nothing to report at this time.

l. COOPERATION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES: Host country authorities have been cooperative when asked for assistance to verify the authenticity of local documents.

m. AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN: At present, there are no areas of specific concern.

n. STAFFING AND TRAINING: The sole Consular Officer, Falashade Robinson, serves as the fraud prevention manager, in addition to other duties in the Consular Section, including performing NIV, IV and DV interviews and providing ACS services. She received basic fraud training through the basic ConGen course at FSI in October/November 2007.

The LES Visa Assistant/LES fraud investigator position was filled in October 2007. The individual is continuing to build knowledge in fraud detection.

Post plans to have a Consular Associate on board in fall 2009 whose efforts would help to better focus on the fraud areas. CA approved funds for the position in FY09 and a FY10 request will be made.

13. Post welcomes additional fraud training materials and courses particularly any that might be offered on-line.

HAWKINS